

## **From Meta-analyses to Meta-analytic Research Domains: The Next Step in the Accumulation of Scientific Knowledge**

### **Abstract**

Meta-analyses are at the top of the hierarchy of evidence on interventions and can be considered to be key components of evidence-based medicine. The number of meta-analyses has also increased exponentially over the past decades and next level aggregation techniques are needed. In this lecture, Professor Pim Cuijpers will discuss “Meta-analytic Research Domains”, living systematic reviews that cover a broader area of science than one research question. He will present this type of research and differences with other types of meta-analytic research (e.g., network meta-analyses, umbrella reviews). He will also discuss advantages, including the broad and up-to-date overview of a field, limitations and gaps of knowledge in the field, research questions that cannot be examined by regular meta-analyses. He will give the example of the METAPSY project and show the possibilities and opportunities of this approach. He will also present the metapsyTools package in R that was specifically designed to support this project, the automated quality check of data, the automated generation of outcomes in different formats, and the Tables that are generated with the package. He will also show and explain the METAPSY website, where the data are publicly available and which Research Domains will be added in the coming period.